

REUTERS

23 November 1985

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WASHINGTON

Federal agents today announced the arrest of a retired Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) analyst on charges of spying for China, the latest in a recent spate of espionage scandals that has rocked the nation.

Larry Wu-Tai Chin, 63, was arrested last night at his home in nearby Alexandria, Va., and charged with passing classified CIA documents to China during and after his 30-year career with the agency.

Chin, a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in China, was to go before a federal magistrate for a bond hearing today, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director William Webster said.

It was believed to be the first U.S. espionage case involving China. Most of the others have involved the Soviet Union and East bloc nations.

The arrest of Chin, who is married and has three children, comes on the heels of an announcement late yesterday that federal officials had uncovered a second family spy ring.

The FBI announced the arrest of Ann Henderson-Pollard, 25, who was accused of unauthorized possession of classified national defense documents.

Pollard's husband Jonathan, a 31-year-old Navy intelligence analyst, was arrested Thursday and charged with passing military secrets to Israel and Pakistan. Intelligence sources say he was paid between \$40,000 and \$50,000 by his spymasters.

The most sensational family espionage scandal erupted last May when retired Navy communications specialist John Walker was charged with spying for the Soviet Union.

Walker, his seaman son Michael and his brother Arthur, a retired Navy officer, were recently convicted of espionage. Walker's best friend, Jerry Whitworth, a retired Navy radio expert, is scheduled for trial in the case.

The FBI gave no details of Chin's alleged spying activities, but law enforcement sources alleged that he began passing secrets to Peking shortly after he was recruited by the CIA during the 1950s in the Far East.

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When he retired from the agency in 1981, he was working at the foreign broadcast information service at CIA headquarters in Langley, Va., just outside Washington.

If convicted, he could be sentenced to life in prison.

The Chin case immediately revived speculation that agents of foreign intelligences services have penetrated the CIA and are operating as "moles" within the agency.

Such speculation has surfaced periodically for decades but no proof has ever emerged publicly.

The CIA was left shaken and embarrassed recently by the defection and "re-defection" of top Soviet intelligence operative Vitaly Yurchenko.

The government announced last Summer that Yurchenko had defected, but earlier this month he announced he was returning to the Soviet Union and accused U.S. agents of drugging and kidnapping him.

The episode shattered CIA relations with Congress. The Senate Intelligence Committee has been discussing downgrading the role of CIA Director William Casey by stripping him of policy-making power.

The FBI has not escaped the recent rash of spy scandals. An FBI agent, Richard Miller, was arrested late last year on charges of spying for Moscow, becoming the first bureau agent in history to be charged with espionage.

His case ended in a mistrial earlier this month. The government has said it will seek a retrial.